

# Retiree Report

July, 2000

A Quarterly Publication from the  
Fairfax County Retirement Agency

## GOOD NEWS ! ! !

### Retiree COLA this year

At their June 5, 2000 meeting, the Board of Supervisors approved Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs) for Retirees in the Police Officers, Supplemental and Uniformed Retirement Systems effective July 1, 2000.

The 3.7% base COLA reflects the increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the Washington area for the period ending March 31, 2000. According to the ordinances which govern the Systems, COLA's are set at the lesser of the Consumer Price Index increase for the previous year or 4%. Each Board may also grant up to an additional 1% depending on the funds' available actuarial surplus.

This year, retirees in the **Supplemental Retirement System** will receive a **3.7%** COLA. Retirees in the **Police Officers System** will receive a **3.7%** COLA. Retirees in the **Uniformed System** will receive a **4.0%** COLA. These cost of living increases will be reflected in your July check.

Members who retired: between July 2, 1999 and October 1, 1999 will receive 75% of the relative COLA amount; between October 2, 1999 and January 1, 2000 will receive 50%; between January 2, 2000 and April 1, 2000 will receive 25%; and after April 1, 2000 will not receive a COLA this year.

### Annual Meeting of the Fairfax County Retired Employees Association

The 7th Annual Fairfax County Retired Employees Association Annual Meeting was held May 10, 2000 at the Government Center.

According to Don Lederer, outgoing Chairman, "the meeting was long and productive." There were 6 speakers, starting with Katherine Hanley and Tony Griffin, then representatives from the Credit Union, Supplemental Retirement Board and Retirement Agency.

The by-laws were changed to increase the Board of Directors from 7 to 9 members and to allow for Associate memberships.

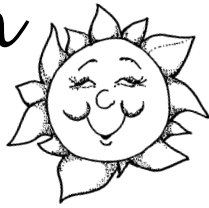
Three new Directors were elected: Martha Collier, George Symanski, and John Yeatman. As of July 1, 2000, the new officers are John Yeatman, Chairman; Jane Kelsey, Vice Chairman; Kitty Gribok, Secretary; and Shirley Painter, Treasurer. Awards were presented to Directors, committee chairman and

*continued on page 4*

### What's Inside?

Spotlight on The Agency	2
F.Y.I. - Phone Numbers	2
Board of Trustees Info	3

# Spotlight on The Retirement Agency



**Mary Einhorn** has been the Senior Accountant with the Retirement Agency since 1993. Her duties include recording and reconciling the accounting activity for all three of the retirement systems as well as preparing annual financial statements, budgeting and preparing for the annual audit.

A Fairfax County resident since 1990, Mary was born in Niagara Falls, New York and lived in New Orleans for two years before settling in the Washington area. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree from the

University of Maryland in 1976 and her CPA shortly thereafter. Before joining the Retirement Agency, Mary worked as an auditor, accounting manager of the UMWA health and retirement funds, and as a part-time accountant while raising two daughters.

When not working, Mary is an avid reader who also enjoys travelling with her husband and teenaged daughters. Her most memorable trips include Caribbean cruises, trips to Israel and the Hawaiian Islands. This year the family is planning a trip to the Canadian Rockies.

Mary's favorite part of her job is meeting and interacting with people from the custodial bank and the investment management firms that invest the retirement assets. She enjoys watching the net asset values of the retirement funds grow.

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*Often the staff in an office are just voices on the other end of the phone or a name you hear in passing. Each upcoming issue of Retiree Report will spotlight one individual of the Retirement Agency staff in an effort to help you get to know them better.*

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## F.Y.I.

In response to requests from retirees for information direct from the Department of Human Resources with regards to Health, Dental and Life Insurance, and 457 plan withdrawal information\*, the following phone numbers may be useful to you:

Human Resources	Main Number	703-324-3400
Dental Insurance	Doug Sachs	703-324-3316
FairChoice+/BCBS Out of Area	Sharon Boelcskev	703-324-3432
CIGNA	Scyvall Carter	703-324-4708
Kaiser	Scyvall Carter	703-324-4708
COBRA	Doug Sachs	703-324-3316
Life Insurance	Tram Nguyen	703-324-3437

As a reminder, **please try to resolve claim issues directly with your insurance carrier.** Fairfax County employees do not have access to your personal account information with regards to claim processing. Human Resources and Retirement Agency staff are available to assist you with enrollment, change and payroll deduction issues. The following phone numbers are plan specific:

**FairChoice+ • 800-441-1164**

**Blue Cross Blue Shield Out-of-Area • 800-441-1164**

**Kaiser Permanente • 301-468-6000**

**CIGNA • 800-832-3211**

**Dental Benefit Providers • 1-800-445-9090**

**Dominion Dental Services • 1- 888-518-5338**

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### Deferred Compensation Information\*

**ICMA • 1-800-669-7400**

**T. Rowe Price • 1-888-457-5770**

**VALIC • 1-888-568-2542**

# Get to Know Your Trustees

While many retirees are familiar with their System's Board of Trustees, others may not know anything at all about the people who are charged with the proper operation of the System to which they belong. This quarter's column, featuring Jean Busboso, the Elected Retiree Trustee on the Supplemental Board, begins a regular feature to help you get to know the Trustees of the Supplemental, Police Officers and Uniformed Systems Boards.

The Board of Trustees of the Supplemental System consists of ten trustees, the Police Officers System Board consists of five trustees, and the Uniformed System Board consists of eight trustees.

## *Trustee Tracking*

A native Virginian, who grew up on a farm in Madison County, **Jean Durham Busboso** is always proud to say, "my husband and I come from the two most beautiful states in the U.S. -- Virginia and Hawaii.

Jean is the elected retiree on the Fairfax County Supplemental Board of Trustees. In March, 1993, just two months before her retirement, the Fairfax County Retired Employees Association was formed. One of the Association's objectives was to have a retiree representative on the Board. Much to her surprise, she was asked to be the candidate and thus, duly elected, took office in January, 1995. She is now serving her second term.

After graduating from Mary Washington College with a B.A. in Spanish and English, Jean taught school in Orange County, VA for one year before venturing out west to Hawthorne, Nevada where she taught for two years. After her marriage, Jean taught school in Alexandria for six years before returning to graduate school at the University of Maryland where she received a Master of Library Science degree. She started working for Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) in November of 1968 and retired in May of 1993.

While employed at FCPL, Jean served for eight years on the Employee Advisory Council. During her tenure, she spoke before the Board of Supervisors and the Civil Service Commission on a number of occasions, seeking such benefits as direct deposit, leave sharing, and shift differential. The benefit she most actively pursued was the Medical Spending Account, the only benefit that was implemented during the lean budget years of the early 1990's. In January 1992, Jean was the first recipient of the Don Smith/EAC Award.

After retirement from FCPL and wanting to continue being of service to Fairfax County, Jean readily accepted an appointment as the Springfield District representative on the Community Action Advisory Board in 1994, where she served until "retiring" in January 2000.

As a result of participation in The Friendship Force, an organization that brings people of the world together through homestay exchanges, she and her husband Buz, have had visitors in their home from Russia, Spain, France, Slovakia, and Japan. Last year she spent two weeks in Russia with Elderhostel and the year before, three weeks in Spain.

Along with Buz, Jean shares her home with two dogs, Maxi and Blossom and enjoys gardening, refinishing old furniture, attending country auctions, reading, and participating in the political scene.

One of her promises to herself upon retiring was to read the newspaper on the day she received it. To date she is still struggling to achieve that goal.

## **Annual Meeting** *continued from page 1*

those who served the organization in special ways throughout the year. Special recognition was given to Ray Birch, Marion Earle, Jake Lay, Jane Peterson, and Delores Testerman. "My thanks go out to all of those who have helped me during the past 3 years. Without your help, all that was accomplished would not have been possible," said Don Lederer.

The purpose of this association is to promote and protect the retirement interests of all Fairfax County employees retired under the Fairfax County Supplemental System. Any retired Fairfax County employee or surviving spouse is eligible to become a member of the association by paying \$5 for an annual membership or \$50 for lifetime membership. For more information, please contact Shirley Painter at 703-425-6371.

**Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Retirement Association annual dues is \$20.**

**For information on the Fairfax County Retired Police Officers Association, call James Covell at 703-426-2781.**

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